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RICHARD T KNAUER
ROCHE DIAGNOSTICS CORPORATION
9115 HAGUE ROAD BLDG D
P O BOX 50457
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46250-0457

EXAMINER

NGO, L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3727

14

DATE MAILED:

10/24/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/389,428

Applicant(s)
Kuhr et al.

Examiner
Lien Ngo

Art Unit
3727



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8-10-01

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-32 and 43-51 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☒ Claim(s) 26, 31, and 32 is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-25, 27-30, 43, and 46-49 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 44, 45, 50, and 51 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the conical shape of the opening (claim 49) must be shown or the feature(s) cancelled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 33-41 (new added claims) are objected to because of the following informalities: claims 33-41 should be claims 43-51. Appropriate correction is required.

The numbering of claims is not accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claims 33-41 have been renumbered 43-51.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to

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make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. "the opening has a conical shape" is not supported in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 22-25, 27-30, 43, and 46-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Douglas (3,696,915). In regard to claims 22-23 and 25, Douglas discloses, in figs. 1-3, a system comprising a lancing device (razor 16), a lancet or blade magazine 10 , a transport device 80 and 82, and an opening 44 in which the lacing device can be inserted to remove an individual lancet from the lancet magazine. The system further comprising a plurality of lancets or blades 12. In regard to claims 24, 27-30, the lancet magazine has a flat angular shape, and the transport device is driven by a spring mechanism. In regard to claims 43 and 46-48, it is inherent that the blade including a tip, and the razor including a holding tongue and an ejector.

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Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 26, 31 and 32 are allowed.
8. Claims 44, 45, 50 and 51 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-25, 27-30, 43, and 46-49 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Arnold (4,860,937) and Blum (4,998,452) teach nail magazines.
11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lien Ngo whose telephone number is (703) 305-0294. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful. The examiner's supervisor, Lee Young, can be reached at (703)308-2572. The Group FAX number is (703) 305-3597.

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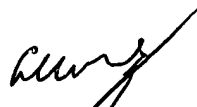
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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of the application should be directed to the Group receptionist at (703) 308-1148.

Lien Ngo



October 21, 2001



Allan N. Shoap
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700